



People Helping People is a small project founded in the Chapel of Penha de França by the late Father Bernardino Andrade to help those in need. Our former Bishop D. António once said, "One must find new ways of helping the poor". A very small group of people attending the English Mass decided to do just that after the floods in 2010! In a short period of time, we created partnerships with supermarket chains and restaurants; we have paid dozens of medical prescriptions, we have spent gallons and gallons of petrol riding across the island giving lifts, we have prevented families from going hungry, getting their electricity cut off, running out of gas, losing their homes. **We have tried to keep them warm, keep them hopeful, and keep them dreaming.**

"A smile is the best way to hold back tears"...
"To love is to give and accept whatever the world and others can and want to give... It may be little... or nothing at all... In any case, it's always better to give than to receive." - (from the author José Luís Nunes Martins in his book: "Amor, Silêncios e Tempestades" « Love, Silences and Storms»).



"You should wash each other's feet"

>> TRANSFER TO BANK ACCOUNT IN MADEIRA:

ACCOUNT NAME:

Associação Gente Ajudando Gente

BANK: Banco Santander Totta

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 0003 4938 1759020

IBAN: PT50 0018 0003 49381759020 94

SWIFT: TOTAPTPL

NIB: 0018 0003 49381759020 94

Bank Address:

Caminho de Santa Quiteria 46A,
 9020-119, Funchal
 Madeira, Portugal.



>> DONATIONS FROM THE UK:

ACCOUNT NAME: Sinead Moynihan

BANK: Lloyds Bank

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 02461743

BRANCH: Univ. of Cambridge

SORT CODE: 30-13-55

IBAN: GB05 LOYD 3013 5502 4617 43

BIC: LOYDGB21035



The funds will then be transferred to Madeira. Any questions or concerns about transferring to this account, please contact Sinead Moynihan at: sineadmoinihan7@icloud.com

PEOPLE HELPING PEOPLE CONTACTS: Alexandre Silva, Funchal. Email: alex.lupus@gmail.com
 When making any donation, please send an email to penhafranca.php@gmail.com with the date, and name on the transfer so that we are able to confirm that the transfer has been received. Thank you.

Please sign our Visitor's book in the Social Hall..... leave us your comments, or suggestions, let us know where you're from! © We also have a map where you can place a pin on where you are visiting us from! 😊



After Mass

Join us across the garden for a cup of coffee, cake, and a chat!



Our Social Hall has a Free Little Library: a cabinet full of books. You're welcome to take a book, borrow a book, leave one in exchange, or even bring in some books that you have lying around that you no longer want. 😊



Receive this newsletter by email every week. Ask to be added to the newsletter distribution list by sending an email to: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com or alternatively, you can download them from the Chapel's website/blog: www.rcmassmadeira.org/newsletter-downloads/

20th July 2025 – 10am Sunday Mass
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year C

Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França

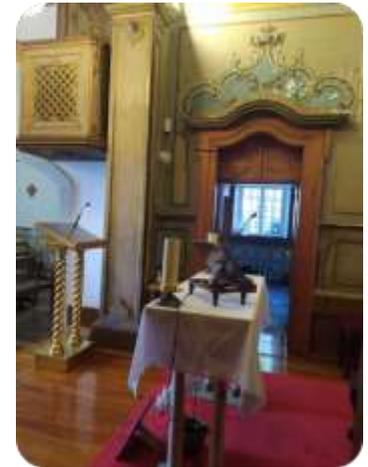
Rua Penha de França 3, Funchal, Madeira

Website and Blog: <http://rcmassmadeira.org/>

Facebook: www.facebook.com/penhafrancachapel

Instagram: www.instagram.com/capela_penha_franca/

Email: penhafranca.newsletter@gmail.com



THE CATHOLIC MASS IN ENGLISH

Good morning! Welcome to the Chapel of Our Lady of Penha de França. We are blessed to have Father Joseph Arun celebrating our English language Mass for us. Father Joseph is a Carmelite priest, originally from Kerala, India.

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS – 16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

(Genesis 18:1-10; Psalm 14(15):2-5; Colossians 1:24-28; Luke 10:38-42)

Abraham, settled by the oaks of Mamre, near Hebron, south of Jerusalem, gives proper hospitality to his three special visitors. He addresses only one of them as Lord, who promises a son to the couple in their old age. God's covenant promise to Abraham of countless descendants can now begin to come true. **The psalm** lists the social virtues necessary to be at one with the Lord, especially justice and charity. Paul had explained to the **Colossians** that with Christ's death God's covenant plan is now back on track. Paul sees his afflictions as helping spread the knowledge of redemption and contributing towards the debt Christ has already paid on our behalf. The Jews believed that God would reveal his secret plans for creation: Paul says these have now been revealed - the mystery is Jesus the Christ, the man who is the revelation of God, now raised to the new life also promised to us. In **Luke's** description of Jesus' visit to Martha and Mary, their brother Lazarus is not mentioned. Like Sarah, Martha is busy preparing the meal. With so much to do she is naturally - but not obsessively - distracted, and asks for Mary's help. But Jesus reminds her that listening to the words of their prophetic guest is more important than domestic perfection.

- By: Chris Oliver (www.bible-groups.info)

PSALM RESPONSE: The just will live in the presence of the Lord.



TODAY'S HYMN MUSIC:

By: Larysa and Anastacia

Entry: "Bind us together, Lord..." - 65

Offertory: "Father, I place into your hands..." - 134

Communion: "Let there be love shared..." - 317

Final: "Go, the Mass is ended..." - 175



Dear friends,

In Madeira, we're famous for our **alcunhas** – those nicknames that capture something about a person, often with a pinch of humour. Some are affectionate, like “O Russo” for someone with reddish hair, or “O Galo” for someone who’s always proud or talks a lot. My grandparents used to tell me about a man everyone called “O Amigo” – The Friend. You’d think, from that name, he’d be kind and good-hearted. But as they explained, in truth, he was

always meddling in everyone’s business, always talking but never really listening. The name showed more what people hoped he’d be, rather than what he truly was.



The Gospel gives us the scene of Martha and Mary welcoming Jesus. Martha is busy serving, wanting to show her love through action, while Mary simply sits at Jesus’ feet and listens. And gently, Jesus says Mary has chosen “the better part.”

At first glance, it might seem surprising. Isn’t it better to be busy doing things for the Lord? But true friendship with Christ isn’t just about activity – it’s about being with him, listening and letting him speak to our hearts. **A real friend doesn’t only talk; they take time to be present and to listen.**

Many people come to Madeira on holiday to rest: to slow down, take in the views, and escape the rush of daily life. But how many of us include resting in Christ? Not just admiring the scenery, but truly sitting quietly with him, feeding on his word and drawing strength from his presence.

Sometimes, like “O Amigo” from my grandparents’ story, we might be busy talking to Jesus but hardly ever listening. We share our worries and plans but don’t pause to hear his reply. The real challenge is to ask ourselves: are we true **amigos** of Christ, willing to stop, to listen, and to spend time with him? Or are we only friends in name, always busy yet rarely truly present?

Friendship with Christ isn’t just a label – it’s a living relationship. **Like Mary, let’s choose the better part:** to be still with him, listen, and let his word guide our hearts.

Prayers and love,
Deacon Tito

JOKE OF THE WEEK: A day off for the pastor?

A distraught woman tried many times to contact her pastor only to discover that it was his day off. She made contact with him the next day and scolded him severely. “Father, I needed you yesterday,” she said, “and you were not there for me. You have let me down. I cannot believe you would take a day off when so many people like me need you.” Then she added, “The devil never takes a day off.” The pastor, a little irritated and with tongue in cheek, responded, “And if I didn’t take a day off, I would be just like him, wouldn’t I?”



<https://frtonyshomilies.com>

On Wednesday, July 16th, the Catholic church celebrated the **Feast of Our Lady of Mount Carmel**.

At the Carmelite Church here in Funchal a special Mass was celebrated by Fr. Marcos Gonçalves, the Vicar General, who during his homily emphasised the role of Our Lady as a model of tenderness and intercession, and explained the meaning of the Carmelite scapular. A procession took place after the Mass, with a statue of Our Lady of Mount Carmel carried through the streets surrounding *Igreja do Carmo* (the Carmelite church).



Photo by: Ronan Fox



Igreja do Carmo



The Vicar General, and Fr. Joseph



Our Lady of Mt. Carmel

What are the items used at Mass?

Practical guide of the objects used at the altar CatholicLink

<p>Chalice</p> <p>A large cup used to hold the wine which becomes the Blood of Christ.</p>	<p>Purificator</p> <p>A white cloth that the priest uses to cleanse the chalice.</p>	<p>Ciborium</p> <p>It is used to hold the hosts which will be used for communion.</p>	<p>Corporal</p> <p>A linen cloth on which the vessels (with bread and wine) are placed.</p>	<p>Pall</p> <p>It is a stiff, square, white cover that is placed over the chalice.</p>
<p>Host and paten</p> <p>The host is placed in the paten (a saucer-like disk).</p>	<p>Lavabo and manuterge</p> <p>They are used by the priest to wash his hands during Mass.</p>	<p>Cruets</p> <p>Small vessels that hold the water and wine.</p>	<p>Roman Missal</p> <p>It contains the prayers, chants and instructions for the Mass.</p>	<p>Candles and crucifix</p> <p>It reminds us of the sacrifice of Christ, Light of the World.</p>

